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Florida Sunset
Mark McAmish

October is the fallen leaf, but it is also a wider horizon more clearly seen. It is the distant hills once more in sight, and the enduring constellations above them once again.

~ Hal Borland
1900-1978
American Author & Journalist

PEOPLE & PLACES

Holiday Show

The 2013 MoNEP Holiday Show and party will be held on **Tuesday, December 10th**, starting at **6:00 p.m.** at **The Ethical Society in Clayton**.

This annual event is a nice opportunity to socialize with other MoNEP members and enjoy a fabulous digital presentation of members' images set to music by **Jerry Miller** and **Pat Burgess.** Food and drink are served before the show, which will begin at about 7:45 p.m. in the auditorium. You are welcome to invite family and friends to enjoy the evening with you.

This year **Judy** and **Jim Stroup** are joining **Margy** and **Dan Terpstra** as the coordinators of the gathering. MoNEP will provide finger foods, wine, beer and soft drinks. If you are willing to bring an appetizer or dessert, please make sure that what you bring is easily served and can be eaten without cutlery. If you are going to bring food, please email Margy at **hummerhaven@sbcglobal.net** to let her know what you're bringing.

Volunteers needed:
Margy and Dan would like to have 3 volunteers to help with set-up starting at 5:30 p.m. and another 6 to help with clean up after the event. If you are able to volunteer for one of these tasks, please contact Dan or Margy by email or by phone at **314-606-6957**. Judy and Jim would like to have 4 volunteers to help monitor the food areas. If you are able to help in this way, please email Judy at **jstroup01@charter.net** or call the Stroups at **314-843-0417**.

We hope you will join us in celebrating the season and another great year for MoNEP and its members.

New Meeting Location & Time

Beginning with the October meeting and for the next six months, MoNEP's meeting time and location are changing. As of **October 15th**, we will meet at **The Ethical Society** from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** We will meet in the large room on the lowest level of the building where we have had lunch during past seminars.

The Ethical Society is located **at 9001 Clayton Road, Richmond Heights, Missouri, 63117**. It is west of Brentwood Boulevard on the right hand side of the road. Go down the steep driveway to the back of the building where there is a large parking lot. Use the back entrance to the lower level from the parking lot. It is toward the right end of the back of the building.

Help Wanted:
We could use help setting up and taking down chairs before and after the meeting. If you are able to help with setup, please be at The Ethical Society by 6:30 on the evening of the meeting.

After the meeting, everyone is invited to the Plaza Grill at 7750 Carondelet in Clayton for socializing and a bite to eat.

SNR Youth Photo Contest

This is the final call for entries for the Shaw Nature Reserve's 2013 youth nature photography contest. ***Take A Shot!*** is open to children ages 14 and under. Entries must have been taken at Shaw Nature Reserve between **April 1st and October 15th, 2013**. All entries must be received at the SNR Visitor Center by **4 p.m. on October 15th**. The four categories are: **Flora, Wildlife, Miniature World of Nature** and **People in Nature**. Contest details and forms are online at **shawnature.org**.

New Members

Welcome to our newest MoNEP member, **Jack McCarty**.

Member News

As some of you may know, longtime member **Lori Purk** graduated last October from the **Missouri Master Naturalist Program** as an Intern. Since then, Lori has been working towards her certification by completing at least 40 service hours and 8 hours of advanced training. On August 15th, 2013 she obtained her certification as a Missouri Master Naturalist and is a member of the **Great Rivers Chapter**. Lori has been named the chapter photographer. Lori said this about the experience, "I have really enjoyed all of the different things I have been able to learn and being able to participate in a variety of environmental projects this past year. I highly recommend the program to my fellow MoNEP members and would love to talk to and help anyone who may be interested in becoming involved with the program." Congratulations to Lori on her achievement and her commitment to learning more about nature and the environment!

Jim Rhodes has kindly shared a link to his images from a backpack trip he took along the **Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore** in the Upper Peninsula of Lake Michigan. To see Jim's images of this beautiful spot, go to his Flickr site: **www.flickr.com/photos/jimrhodes_photos/** and then click on sets.

Richard Spener and Toni Armstrong had a well-attended exhibit opening at the **Missouri History Museum**. 250 people turned up to see their exhibit: ***50 Years of Wilderness: Through the Lens of Missouri's 8 Wilderness Areas***. The exhibit will be on display at the museum until **January 5th, 2014**.

If you are interested in learning more about Missouri's wilderness areas, John Karel, former Missouri State Parks director, will give a presentation on October 22nd. Richard and Toni will be there to take attendees through the exhibit and answer questions.

To view the images that are part of the exhibit, visit Richard's website **richardspenerphotography.com** and click on additional images.

MoNEP Exhibit at SNR

Sixteen photographs taken by MoNEP members on feeding relationships in nature are on display at the **Bascom House** at the **Shaw Nature Reserve**. The images in the exhibit, ***What's On the Menu***, reflect the 2013 theme for the Missouri Botanical Garden, *Food*. The exhibit includes a variety of subject matter from birds eating insects and other birds, pollinators at flowers feeding on nectar and critters feeding on other animals lower down on the food chain. It was a challenging theme we were presented with and as usual MoNEP members rose to the occasion. Thanks to all who submitted work. Without your participation, we would not be able to take part in exhibits like this and to share our work with the community. The Board thanks everyone involved in making this exhibit a success. The exhibit is on display **through October 31st**. The Bascom House is open seven days a week from 10-4.

IPHF Opens

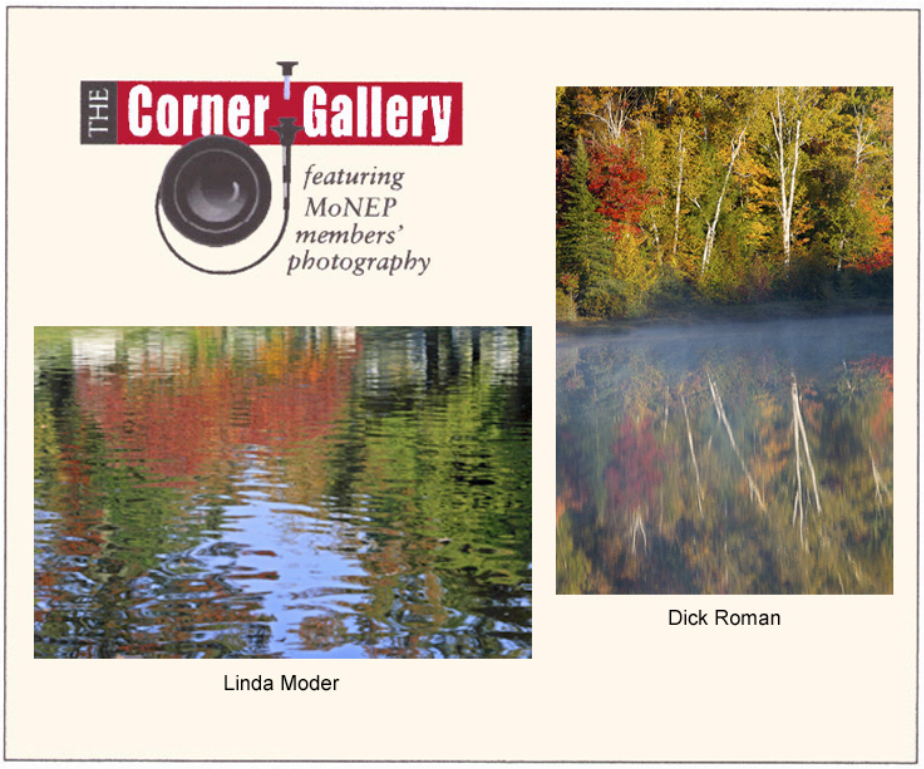
The **International Photography Hall of Fame and Museum** opened to the public on October 4th. Located at **3415 Olive Street** in the Grand Center area, IPHF is currently featuring an exhibit of nature images. For details, visit **www.iphf.org**.

September Meeting Recap

Mike Leahy, the Natural Areas Coordinator with the Missouri Department of Conservation was the presenter at the September meeting. He talked about some of the very special natural places in Missouri and the fact that Missouri is a state with good biodiversity. That is due, in large part to the fact that Missouri is the meeting place of four different ecological regions: the Central Plains in the glaciated northern part of the state; the Osage Plains around Kansas City, the Ozark Highlands across the southern part of the state from border to border, and the Mississippi River Alluvial Basin in the Boot Heel. Within these regions are varied natural communities and many wonderful areas to explore. Among them are:

- Englemann Woods, near Labadie: a prime spot for spring wildflowers and fall color with large old hardwoods
- Prairie Slough, near Elsberry: eagles in winter, migrating warblers in the spring, wood ducks and herons
- Pickle Springs, near Farmington: a National Natural Landmark with box canyons, waterfalls and unusual plants and animals

Our thanks to Mike for introducing us to some natural gems. For more information visit: **mdc.mo.gov.**



MEETINGS & programs

Meeting Date, Time and Location
Tuesday, October 15: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 19: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

NOTE: The October and November meetings will be held at The Ethical Society from 7-9 p.m.

Share and Show Nature Images – due 10/12
Members are invited to share up to **four (4) nature-related images** at the upcoming meeting. The theme for **November is *Local Nature Photo Ops***. Please follow the instructions on ***Uploading Share and Show Images*** in the tips section at **monep.org**. We ask that you:

- Resize your images so vertical images are 768 pixels high and horizontal images are 768 pixels wide.
- Name your images according to the directions at monep.org under tips.
- Save your images as .jpg files.
- Compress your four resized images into a zip file.
- Send your zipped images via email to **share@monep.org by midnight, Saturday, 10/12**.

Share and Show Themes
October 15th Theme: Local Nature Photo Ops
November 19th Theme: Backlight/Silhouettes

October 15th Speaker – Mitch Leachman
Naturescaping: Landscaping for Life
Bird gardening, butterfly gardening and habitat gardening are all good terms, but **Mitch Leachman**, the Executive Director of the St. Louis Audubon Society, prefers the term Naturescaping. He describes naturescaping as landscaping for nature, or landscaping for life, including our own! "We face a host of challenges in the 21st century, not the least of which is maintaining a healthy, functioning environment. Naturescaping in urban spaces of all kinds can make a real difference for at-risk plants and animals, ecosystem services and our own well-being." Re-connect with nature in your own landscape. Share that experience with others. Watch your life change. Mitch Leachman will discuss this topic and a new program that supports it called ***Bring Conservation Home***.

Mitch is the Executive Director of the St. Louis Audubon Society and coordinator of their Bring Conservation Home program. He joined the Audubon network in 1997 and has been active with the St. Louis chapter since 2001. On staff since 2008, Mitch plans and coordinates many chapter activities, including *Bring Conservation Home,* community stewardship projects, fundraising, communications and outreach. To learn more about the important work done by our local Audubon chapter visit their website at **www.stlouisaudubon.org**.

October Field Trip
The October field trip will be held on **Saturday, October 19th**. The destination is the always-photogenic **Shaw Nature Reserve**. Members should meet at **7:00 a.m. at the Bascom House parking lot**. In addition to all of your camera gear, you may also want to bring along a water bottle, sunscreen, insect repellent, a hat and a snack. Coffee is generally served in the Bascom House once it opens at 10 a.m. It will also be a great opportunity to view the MoNEP exhibit. **Randy Hunter** is the contact for this outing. You can reach Randy at **314-845-3914** for details or questions.

Shaw Photography Series
As many of us know, Shaw Nature Reserve is a local nature photographer's dream. Located just outside of St. Louis, its 2,400-acres feature beautiful tall grass prairies, interesting glades, oak-hickory woodlands and bottomland forest. Interspersed throughout the Reserve are many aquatic habitats including wetlands, ponds, a creek and the meandering Meramec River.

Over the past 35 years, the Reserve has been proud to host numerous photography workshops conducted by regionally and nationally recognized photographers, including Ernst Haas in the early 80s. Haas was a pioneer in the use of color film when it was introduced in the late 1940s and he quickly became recognized as a master of this new medium. Haas led two workshops at the Reserve in the early 1980's. The Nature Reserve and a few dedicated photographers here in St. Louis, including **Scott Avetta**, worked with **Lydia Toth**, manager of SNR's education programs, to design a year of photographic events and workshops. The ***Shaw Photography Series: Finding Your Focus*** kicked off with a magnificent presentation by one of today's premier nature photographers, Jim Brandenburg, on September 20th. Since then there have been a number of workshops at the Nature Reserve, with more to follow this fall, winter and spring. Upcoming workshops include:

- Creating Your Own Light: Flash and Flashlights for Nature Photography with Greg Basco, 12/14/13

- Techniques & Equipment for Photographing Missouri Wildlife with Danny Brown, 1/11/14

- Shooting & Sharing: Photography in the Age of Social Media with Jeff Hirsch, 2/8/14

The presenters and topics for the spring have yet to be announced, but planning is underway. Stay tuned for the spring listings, which should come out February 1st. Visit **shawnature.org** for more information.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Missouri Nature and Environmental Photographers is to provide a forum for individuals interested in the field of nature photography and the environment, provide education, gather and disseminate information, and promote nature photography as an art form and medium of communication.

MoNEP meetings are held once a month. Specific dates and meeting locations are posted in the newsletter and on the MoNEP web site.

MoNEP is an officially registered service mark. Use of the logo without MoNEP board approval is prohibited.

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VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.monep.org